



H.R. 236 – North Bay Water Reuse Program Act of 2007

FLOOR SITUATION

H.R. 236 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Rep. Mike Thompson (D-CA) on January 4, 2007. The House Committee on Natural Resources approved the bill, as amended, by unanimous consent on November 15, 2007.

H.R. 236 is expected to be considered on the floor on December 4, 2007.

SUMMARY

H.R. 236 authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to create a Bureau of Reclamation partnership with the North Bay Water Reuse Authority and other regional partners to achieve objectives relating to water supply, water quality, and environmental restoration.

The legislation authorizes 25 percent of the project, or \$25,000,000 (whichever is less) as the federal cost share of the projects proposed.

BACKGROUND

Many of the growing urban communities of the North Bay region of California currently discharge their treated wastewater into the San Pablo Bay “the Bay.” By the year 2020, the region’s treatment plants will be discharging 36,000 acre-feet of wastewater into the Bay each year. The Authority recycles this water and provides it to farmers, who have had to find alternative methods for water collection due to recent droughts.

COST

“CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 236 would cost \$25 million over the 2008-2012 period. Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or revenues.”

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